

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 THE HA 04796 300839Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 DOE-15 H-02 INR-10 INT-05
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-20 OES-09
SP-02 SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 /150 W
-----015683 310410Z /13

R 300712Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3256
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS THE HAGUE 4796

ALSO FOR USEEC, USOECD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, NL
SUBJECT: DUTCH SELECT TERMINAL SITE FOR IMPORTER ALGERIAN LNG

REF: A) 77 THE HAGUE 5741 B) THE HAGUE 1328 C) THE HAGUE 4252

1. FOLLOWING DISCUSSIONS WITH BOTH THE SOUTH HOLLAND AND GRONINGEN PROVINCIAL AUTHORITIES (REF. B AND C), THE CABINET ON AUGUST 25 CHOSE THE EEMSHAVEN (NEAR DELFZIJL IN THE NORTH) AS THE SITE FOR AN LNG STORAGE AND DISTRIBUTION TERMINAL. THE FACILITY WOULD BE CAPABLE OF PROCESSING FOUR BILLION CUBIC METERS OF LNG TO BE IMPORTED FROM ALGERIA ANNUALLY (REF. A). IMPORTATION OF ALGERIN GAS, TOTALING 80 BILLION CUBIC METERS UNDER A TWENTY-YEAR CONTRACT, IS PLANNED TO START DURING THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1984. THE CABINET DECISION, FAVORING EEMS-HAVEN OVER MAASVLAKTE NEAR ROTTERDAM, WAS BASED PRIMARILY ON ECONOMIC MOTIVES, SINCE LNG PROCESSING IN THE NORTH IS EXPECTED TO ATTRACT NEW INDUSTRIES AND PROVIDE BADLY NEEDED STIM-
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 THE HA 04796 300839Z

ULATION FOR THE ECONOMICALLY DEPRESSED AREA. THE EEMSHAVEN LNG PLANT IS EXPECTED TO COST APPROXIMATELY 190 MILLION GUILDERS MORE THAN THE ALTERNATIVE OF EXPANDING THE EXISTING LNG FACILITIES ON THE MAASVLAKTE; HOWEVER, ACCORD-ING TO A GOVERNMENT SOURCE, THE EEMSHAVEN AREA WOULD HAVE REQUIRED SIZEABLE FINANCIAL SUPPORT WITHOUT THE LNG TER-MINAL. IN ADDITION TO HIGHER CONSTRUCTION COSTS, THE

LONGER SAILING ROUTE FOR TANKERS IS EXPECTED TO INCREASE
THE LANDED PRICE OF ALGERIAN NATURAL GAS BY 0.3 DUTCH CENT (ONE DOLLAR NOW EQUALS 2.19 GUILDERS) PER CUBIC METER.

2. BECAUSE OF THE SELECTION OF EEMSHAVEN, NEGOTIATIONS
MUST NOW BE UNDERTAKEN WITH THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY
TO DISCUSS NAVIGATIONAL ASSISTANCE WITH LNG TANKER TRAFFIC,
WHICH INCLUDES THE WIDENING OF THE NAVIGATION CHANNEL IN THE
EMS-DOLLARD ESTUARY. (THIS ALSO SERVES AS THE ENTRANCE TO
THE GERMAN HARBOR OF EMDEN.) REFERRING TO FORTHCOMING
TALKS WITH GERMANY, PRIME MINISTER VAN AGT SAID THE POSSIBILITY
EXISTED THAT GERMAN AUTHORITIES WOULD NOW ASK
FOR DUTCH COOPERATION REGARDING THE FINAL DEMARKATION
BOUNDARY OF THE EMS-DOLLARD AREA--A DISPUTED GERMAN-
DUTCH BORDER.

3. AFTER PARLIAMENT IS INFORMED OF THE CABINET DECISION,
THE ISSUE WILL BE PUBLICLY DEBATED, PROBABLY DURING THE
SECOND HALF OF SEPTEMBER. THERE IS SOME URGENCY AS
DUTCH HAVE CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATION TO INFORM ALGERIA
OF FINAL DECISION BEFORE OCTOBER 31.

JOSEPH

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: IMPORTS, LPG, STORAGE, VENDORS, SITE SURVEYS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978THEHA04796
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780355-0289
Format: TEL
From: THE HAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978086/aaaaaeug.tel
Line Count: 84
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f3038762-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 THE HAGUE 5741, 78 THE HAGUE 1328, 78 THE HAGUE 4252
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1725402
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DUTCH SELECT TERMINAL SITE FOR IMPORTER ALGERIAN LNG
TAGS: ENRG, NL
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f3038762-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014